

Message Text

SECRET

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50

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 IO-10 ACDA-05 OMB-01 /082 W

----- 028939

R 041154Z MAR 75

FM USINT BAGHDAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1688

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T BAGHDAD 0229

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: PFOR, IZ, SY

REF: BAGHDAD 228

SUBJECT: IRAQI ATTACKS ON SYRIA

1. VIOLENT ATTACK ON SYRIA (REFTEL) HAS RAISED MAJOR QUESTIONS HERE; E.G. DID SADDAM HUSSEIN SUPPORT STATEMENT OR DID HE ONLY ACQUIESCE (IT IS TAKEN FOR GRANTED HE GAVE APPROVAL); IS SYRIA IN FACT SUPPORTING KURDS; AND IF SO, WHAT IS SYRIAN MOTIVE IN GOADING IRAQIS AT THIS CRUCIAL TIME? WOULD APPRECIATE DAMASCUS ASSESSMENT.

2. ONE POSSIBLE EXPLANATION FOR APPARENT GOI SUPPORT FOR PARTY STATEMENT IS LINKAGE REGIME SEES BETWEEN ME SETTLEMENT AND
SECRET

SECRET

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KURDISH CONFLICT. REGIME FEARS THAT IF ME SETTLEMENT REACHED,

IRAQ WILL BE LEFT ALONE TO FACE IRAN. IT MUST THEREFORE ATTEMPT
TO PREVENT SETTLEMENT AND ITS MOST VULNERABLE TARGET IS ASAD
REGIME.
LOWRIE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

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